

Chapter I

Introduction

1.1 Background Of **The** Study

Literature, broadly defined, can refer to anything written or oral. Literature or imaginative literature refers to written compositions or oral forms designed to tell stories, dramatized situations, and reveal thoughts and emotions to interest, entertain and stimulate readers (Shipley 6). Literature is related to the truths of human life, and it may be based on situations that may occur.

There are three kinds of literary works: prose fiction (novel, short stories, romances, epic), poetry

and drama. The writer is more interested in a **novel** since she finds it easier to understand than poetry and drama. It is due to the fact that a novel has a lot of dialogues, descriptions and a long story. They give clearer and deeper explanations. Another reason why the writer chooses novel is because a novel as a prose narrative, which describes characters and situations typical of real life within the framework of plot, can entertain people as well as develop their imagination. The primary purpose of a novel is to entertain the readers. By some novelists, novel is made from a genre, which has traditionally been read primarily for entertainment, into a vehicle for the serious expression of ideas (Shipley 7). One of this kind of novelists is Ernest Hemingway.

Many people know Ernest Hemingway. They may not have read one of his novels or short stories, but they certainly know that Hemingway is one of the well-known twentieth-century American writers. Ernest Hemingway is perhaps the best-known and most widely imitated of modern American writer (Guth 29). He is very popular in prose. The Nobel Prize in literature that was awarded "for his powerful style forming mastery of art of

modern narration" in 1954 proved that his works are great. His popularity and success to get this prize raise the thesis writer's curiosity to find out more about his works. All Hemingway's vision of life is reflected in his short-stories and novels.

Hemingway's fame has really influenced his society because he vividly creates his own characteristics which are quite different from other contemporary writers. The dissenting characteristic not only deals with the subject matter like ordeals, triumphs, defeats of bullring, the trout stream and the battle fight, but also the technique of expressing the subject matter **in** the form of literary works and especially his thoughts. As Cowley wrote in A Second Flowering, "The Hemingway image had an effect on some writers of his own age group" (Cowley 67).

Hemingway's characters are alive in the situations of excitement and pressure in which Hemingway puts them (Baker 42). Seldom does Hemingway express the meanings or messages explicitly in his works. He only narrates what the characters do, smell, taste, hear, see and feel, and leave the total meaning of the narrative to the readers. Hemingway brings the characters alive

through his description and makes the readers almost feel as though they are a part of all the happenings in the book. His ironies are unsaid, the message are implied. The readers should participate, judge and be involved in the story (Austin 22).

The prominent characteristics of Hemingway's work lie on the limited characters, the common problem as the subject matters creatively and vividly described in his novels and his style. The limited characters concerning soldiers, sportsmen, prize fighters and matadors are commonly found in his novel The Sun Also Rises, For Whom The Bell Tolls, A Farewell to Arms, Greenhills of Africa, Death in the Afternoon, and Across The River and into The Trees (Baker 49).

Halliday (1959) wrote that the main interest in representing human life through fictional forms, has consistently been to set human beings against the background of their world and universe to examine the human situation from various points of view (Halliday ,531

Hemingway also has more ability in expressing his feeling through his dialogue. Hemingway has often been described as a master of dialogues. "His dialogues is

extraordinarily natural and can make the people live and act (Aiken 91). Hemingway's style is unique "he refuses to use long complicated sentences but prefers simple diction and sentence structure. His words are short and common yet communicative" (Muir 96).

Hemingway is really a strong writer in choice **of** words to make the story come alive, like in The Sun Also Rises, he does an excellent job of revealing the characters **by** expressing their feeling through dialogues.

The reason of choosing this novel is due **to** the fact that this is one of Hemingway's best novels and is also regarded as Hemingway's first major novel. The Sun Also Rises stands as perhaps the most impressive first novel ever written by Hemingway (Beach 82). The Sun Also Rises is his first successful novel which achieved widespread popularity. This is the work that established Hemingway as one of the great prose stylists, and one of the preeminent writers of his time (Canby 21). It proves how successful he was as a novelist even though he was still young at that time. So it is no wonder that Farrell says in Critiques of Four Major Novels about Hemingway that:

Whatever he [Hemingway] tried he .didbetter than anyone else. The best of Ernest Hemingway is still to be found in The Sun Also Rises. Its freshness has not faded with time. It remains one of the very best American novels of the Twenties" (Farrell 6).

Moreover, in The Sun Also Rises, Hemingway has successfully transmitted the way of life of people of 1920 into his fictional character. It is mentioned by Carey that, "when Hemingway's novel first began to appear they were readily accepted by the American reading public; in fact, they were enthusiastically received". Further he adds that, "Part of this reception was due to the fact that Hemingway had created a new type of fictional character whose basic response to life appealed very strongly to the people of the 1920" (66).

In The Sun Also Rises, Hemingway's vision of life is reflected in it and it is the result of his own personal experiences during his youth as a volunteer in Italy in The First World War and as a war correspondent

during the Spanish civil war (Guth 29). "Jake Barnes, the hero in this novel is Hemingway himself" (Spiller 202). It is from Jake Barnes's eyes, The Sun Also Rises brought out to the readers. In other words, Jake is the narrator of the story. He told everything he saw and felt. This novel is essentially an expression of everything Hemingway had experienced in Italy about war, the courage and bravery in war, and life itself. This novel is his way of expressing his experiences along with his feeling. These are the experiences that lead to his almost obsessive preoccupation **with** the realities of death and violence. Hemingway feels that a human should live in order to meet the challenges of life with courage and honor.

Among Hemingway's other works, The Sun Also Rises was published to establish his reputation and bring fame to both the novel and "The Lost Generation", the generation of the 20's. It is a group of young people who become the victim of WorldWar I. The war has turned the life of the people of the 20's into an empty life, changes the people into a bunch of restless and mentally hollow people, and Jake Barnes is no exception

to this. As described by Carey, "By restless is meant that he will often stay awake at nighttime" (69).

In The Sun Also Rises, Hemingway explores the concerns and struggle: in a tragic world overshadowed by anguish and despair, it is possible to survive and even extract a certain measure of happiness by disillusioned paying the price exacted for it. This story is centered on the struggle of Jake Barnes to adjust himself to the effect of his wound and the desire he has for the great love of his life. The severe physical wound he has suffered suggests an equally severe physic injury. In trying to come to terms with his emasculation Jake suffers defeat but, in the end also a kind of victory.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

As a result of the First World War, Jake faces a new change of life. He becomes impotent and loses the woman he loves. This condition makes Jake become depressed and has to struggle to survive. Jake's change of life makes the writer wonder how he can survive the rough condition caused by the war and therefore, encourages the thesis writer to find out how Jake

Barnes comes to his self-realization that finally makes him able to face and overcome his weakness and his relationship with the woman he loves.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The thesis writer in her analysis wants to show that at the end Jake Barnes could face his change of life and overcome his love relationship with Brett Ashley. He is able to accept the reality and to come to his self-realization because of his desire and struggle to survive, and his positive character traits.

1.4 Importance of the Study

Hopefully, this thesis can give the readers a clear picture of the life of the main male character after the First World War as reflected in The Sun Also Rises. The thesis writer also wants to help the readers to realize the harshness of people's life after the firstWorld War especially people who get bad effect in the war. That was the time when people realized that war was capable of changing people's life and character as well as overwhelming human values. This thesis is important to tell the readers to learn and appreciate

more about the life of people after the First World War because the war has changed people's life, so people, will know that they are lucky enough to live in this peaceful world.

Besides, she also hopes that this thesis can give a better understanding of self-realization to the readers. It is very important for one to know about him/herself since it helps him/her to evaluate him/herself to develop his/her potentials.

Finally, the writer expects that this thesis can arouse the reader's personal appreciation to Hemingway, so that they will know who Ernest Hemingway is, and are willing to read more of Hemingway's works and appreciate The Sun Also Rises as a good piece of literary work.

1.5 **Scope and Limitation**

Since, the analysis is about the character of Jake Barnes as the main male character, how he comes to his self-realization that finally makes him able to face. and overcome his weakness and his relationship with the woman he loves, so the study will be focused on the main male character.

Besides Jake Barnes, there are also other characters who also take an important part in inspiring and giving emotional support to Jake's effort. The first one is Lady Brett Ashley, a woman that he loves, yet also a woman he cannot have. The other one is Robert Cohn, Jake's best friend who also falls in love with Brett. The writer discusses their role as long as their actions support the main male character in his process of his self-realization. The writer also uses the theory of characterization, character and conflict, psychological theory of self-realization, the definition of impotence and also the definition of manhood in analyzing Jake Barnes.

1.6 Methodology

To achieve the purpose of the thesis, the writer uses analytical method by using literary approach namely characterization, character and conflict. Before going to the analysis she collected the data by using library research such as theory of self-realization, definition of impotence and the definition of manhood. She also used some critics' opinions especially those related to the topic.

After collecting the data, the thesis writer begins to analyze them together through a literary approach. Then, she organizes the results of the analysis into an outline. From the outline, she develops it into a thesis.

1.7 Organization of the Study

To make this thesis easy to understand, the writer divides the thesis into five chapters. In the opening chapter, the writer gives a clear explanation of why she chooses the author, the novel and the topic. She also reveals the problem and the purpose of her thesis, the scope and limitation of her discussion, the methodology she applies, and finally the chapter's division.

The second chapter consists of literary theories and criticism, which she uses in the analysis. The analysis itself is divided into two chapters. Chapter Three explains the analysis of Jake Barnes' weaknesses and his relationship with the woman he loves. Chapter Four is the analysis of the process of Jake Barnes' self-realization. Chapter Five, is the conclusion of the analysis. **And** last, the appendix includes the

synopsis of The Sun Also Rises and the biography of Ernest Hemingway, will be presented at the end of the thesis.